

Message Text

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TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 241683 TOSEC 280017

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM SEELYE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, NI

SUBJECT:ACTION MEMORANDUM - NATIONAL DAY GREETINGS TO
NIGERIAN COMMISSIONER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (S/S 7620334)

1. THE PROBLEM

OCTOBER 1 IS NIGERIA'S NATIONAL DAY. DESPITE THE PRESENT
COOLNESS IN OUR RELATIONS, IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE FOR
YOU TO SEND ROUTINE HOLIDAY GREETINGS TO BRIGADIER JOSEPH N.
GARBA, THE NIGERIAN COMMISSIONER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS,
WHO IS IN NEW YORK FOR THE UNGA. THIS IS STANDARD PROCEDURE
AND OMISSION OF SUCH GREETINGS WOULD BE NOTED.

2. BACKGROUND

YOU FIRST MET GARBA DURING A BILATERAL MEETING ON
OCTOBER 1 LAST YEAR. THAT EVENING YOU ATTENDED THE
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NATIONAL DAY RECEPTION OF THE NIGERIAN PERMANENT

REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UN. YOU DID NOT SEE GARBA AT THE RECEPTION (HE ARRIVED LATE), BUT HE LATER SAID THAT HE GREATLY APPRECIATED THE FACT THAT YOU HAD COME.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT YOU APPROVE THE INSTRUCTIONS BELOW TO USUN TO DELIVER NATIONAL GREETINGS TO GARBA. THE PROPOSED TEXT OF THE GREETINGS IS NON-SUBSTANTIVE.

4. INSTRUCTIONS:

PRIOR OCTOBER 1 NIGERIAN NATIONAL DAY, DELIVER FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY TO NIGERIAN EXTAFF COMMISSIONER JOSEPH GARBA WHO IS IN NEW YORK FOR THE UNGA: QUOTE DEAR MR. COMMISSIONER: THE SIXTEENTH ANNIVERSARY OF NIGERIAN INDEPENDENCE IS AN OCCASION ON WHICH YOU AND ALL NIGERIANS CAN TAKE PRIDE IN THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND POTENTIAL OF YOUR NATION. I RECALL OUR FIRST MEETING JUST ONE YEAR AGO. MUCH HAS HAPPENED DURING THAT YEAR WITH RESPECT TO THE BILATERAL RELATIONS OF OUR TWO COUNTRIES AND WITH RESPECT TO THE MOST PRESSING PROBLEMS OF AFRICA AS A WHOLE. I AM CONFIDENT THAT PROGRESS HAS ALREADY BEEN MADE IN BOTH AREAS AND THAT WITH YOUR HELP MUCH MORE CAN BE ACHIEVED. ON THIS OCCASION, I CONGRATULATE YOU AND YOUR NATION AND EXPRESS THE DESIRE THAT THE PATTERN OF REGULAR MEETINGS AND CONSULTATION WHICH WE HAVE BOTH TAKEN THE INITIATIVE TO CREATE WILL CONTINUE AND WILL RESULT IN CLOSER COOPERATION BETWEEN OUR TWO NATIONS. BEST REGARDS, HENRY A. KISSINGER. UNQUOTE.

DEPARTMENT DOES NOT PLAN RELEASE OF THIS MESSAGE BUT HAS NO OBJECTION IF FMG WISHES TO DO SO.

DRAFTED: AF/W:EWLOLLIS APPROVED: AF-AMB, SEELYE
CLEARANCES: AF/W-TWMSMITH; S: DPASSAGE

ROBINSON

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